

I. In The Claims

Please amend the following claims:

7. (Currently amended) Apparatus adapted to be disposed within a first client application for intercommunicating with a second client application, comprising:

- (a) setup means including predefinition storage means for selectively predefining and storing one or more events, one or more interest objects corresponding respectively to the one or more events, and one or more functions corresponding respectively to the one or more events, ~~said the~~ the one or more events including a particular event;
- (b) input means for receiving an input from an operator corresponding to the practice of ~~said the~~ the particular event by the operator in ~~said the~~ the first client application and for presenting one or more functions to the operator in response to receipt of ~~another~~ a second event; and
- (c) transmission and reception means for:

- (1) receiving an interest object corresponding to the particular event transmitted from the second client application via a server to be stored in the predefinition storage means and
- (2) transmitting a set of information associated with ~~said the~~ the particular event stored in ~~said the~~ the predefinition storage means directly to ~~said the~~ the second client application without going through the server when ~~said the~~ the particular event is practiced by ~~said the~~ the first client application in response to ~~said the~~ the input provided by ~~said the~~ the operator via ~~said the~~ the input means.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein ~~said transmission and reception means receives an interest object from said second client application via a server corresponding to said particular event;~~

~~said the~~ setup means including filter and session means, ~~said the~~ filter and session means comparing ~~said the~~ interest object received by ~~said the~~ transmission and reception means with ~~said the~~ one or more interest objects stored in ~~said the~~ predefinition storage means and identifying ~~said the~~ particular event when the received interest object corresponds to one of the one or more interest objects stored in ~~said the~~ predefinition storage means,

~~said the~~ transmission and reception means transmitting information concerning said the particular event stored in ~~said the~~ predefinition storage means directly to ~~said the~~ second client application without going through the server when ~~said the~~ particular event is identified by ~~said the~~ filter and session means and ~~said the~~ particular event is practiced by ~~said the~~ first client application in response to ~~said the~~ input provided by ~~said the~~ operator via ~~said the~~ input means.

9. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein ~~said the~~ transmission and reception means transmits a second interest object corresponding to ~~another~~ the second particular event to a the server, ~~said the~~ server retransmitting ~~said the~~ interest object to ~~said the~~ second client application, ~~said the~~ second client application transmitting ~~said another~~ information concerning the second particular event directly to ~~said the~~ first client application without going through the server when a user practices ~~said another~~ the second particular event on the second client application;

~~said~~ the transmission and reception means receiving ~~said another~~ the second particular event from ~~said~~ the second client application.

21. (Currently amended) Client application apparatus, comprising:

storage means for storing a plurality of events, a plurality of functions associated, respectively, with the plurality of events, and a plurality of interest objects associated, respectively, with the plurality of events;

transmission and reception means for:

transmitting a first set of one or more of the plurality of interest objects to other client applications via a server

receiving a second set of one or more of the plurality of interest objects from other client applications via a server;

transmitting one or more of ~~said~~ the plurality of events corresponding to the second set of interest objects directly to other client applications, without going through a server, when a user of the client application practices one or more of the plurality of events; and

receiving one or more of ~~said~~ the plurality of events, corresponding to the first set of interest objects, sent directly from other client applications when an operator of one or more of the other client applications practices one or more of the plurality of events and ~~transmission and reception means for transmitting one or more of said the plurality of events directly to other client applications, without going through a server, when a user of the client application practices one or more of the plurality of events and for receiving one or more of said the plurality of events sent directly from~~

~~other client applications when an operator of one or more of the other client applications practices one or more of the plurality of events and for transmitting one or more of the plurality of interest objects to other client applications via a server and for receiving one or more of the plurality of interest objects from other client applications via a server; and~~

input means for ~~determining how many~~ making a events-to-be-transmitted selection for which of said ~~the~~ plurality of events stored in said ~~the~~ storage means will be transmitted to said ~~the~~ other client applications and ~~determining how many~~ for making a events-to-be-received selection for which of said ~~the~~ plurality of events stored in said ~~the~~ storage means will be received from said ~~the~~ other client applications and generating a signal in response thereto representative of ~~a number~~ of said ~~the~~ events ~~that can be transmitted to or received from other client applications~~ events-to-be-transmitted selection and of the events-to-be-received selection; and

~~said transmission and reception means transmitting said number of said events stored on said storage means to other client applications when a user of said client application practices said number of said events or receiving said number of said events from said other client applications when an operator of said other client applications practice said number of said events on accordance with said signal from input means. wherein the transmission and reception means is responsive to the signal from the input means to transmit the events-to-be-transmitted selection of events and to receive the events-to-be-received selection of events.~~

22. (Currently amended) The client application apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~said~~ the client application apparatus comprises a workstation based system including a display screen and wherein ~~said~~ the input means comprises:

a visual display on ~~said~~ the display screen, the visual display including an open state status icon means for generating an open state status signal when ~~said~~ the open state status icon means is clicked on by an operator, ~~said~~ the open state status signal indicating that all of ~~said~~ the plurality of events stored in ~~said~~ the storage means can be transmitted by said transmission and reception means to ~~said~~ the other client applications or can be received in ~~said~~ the transmission and reception means from said other client applications when ~~said~~ the open state status icon means is clicked on by ~~an~~ the operator.

23. (Currently amended) The client application apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~said~~ the client application apparatus comprises a workstation based system including a display screen and wherein ~~said~~ the input means comprises:

a visual display on ~~said~~ the display screen, the visual display including a closed state status icon means for generating a closed state status signal when ~~said~~ the closed state status icon means is clicked on by an operator, ~~said~~ the closed state status signal indicating that none of ~~said~~ the plurality of events stored in ~~said~~ the storage means can be transmitted by said transmission and reception means to ~~said~~ the other client applications or can be received in ~~said~~ the transmission and reception means from said other client applications when ~~said~~ the closed state status icon means is clicked on by ~~an~~ the operator.

24. (Currently amended) The client application apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~said~~ the client application apparatus comprises a workstation based system including a display screen and wherein ~~said~~ the input means comprises:

a visual display on ~~said~~ the display screen, the visual display including an event filter icon means for generating a subwindow on ~~said~~ the display screen when ~~said~~ the event filter icon means is clicked on by an operator, the subwindow including ~~said~~ the plurality of events, ~~said~~ the subwindow adapted to receive an input from ~~an~~ the operator, ~~said~~ the subwindow generating signals in response to the input from the operator indicating the events-to-be-transmitted selection and the events-to-be-received selection, ~~the identity of specific ones of said plurality of events stored in said storage means that will be transmitted by said transmission and reception means to said other client applications or will be received in said transmission and reception means from said client applications.~~

25. (Currently amended) A workstation based system comprising:

a display screen for displaying one or more windows;

~~one or more~~ a plurality of client applications for presenting ~~said~~ the one or more windows on ~~said~~ the display screen for viewing by an operator, each of ~~said~~ the ~~one or more~~ client applications including:

icon generating means for generating an icon in the window on ~~said~~ the display screen of ~~said~~ each ~~said~~ client application, ~~said~~ the icon being operative responsive to ~~an input provided to said icon~~ a signal generated ~~by said operator for generating a signal~~ in response to input from ~~said~~ the operator;

storage means for storing a plurality of events and a corresponding plurality of functions and a corresponding plurality of interest objects;

transmission and reception means for receiving one or more of the interest objects from ~~other of said~~ one or more of the other client applications via a server;

comparison means responsive to ~~said~~ the input signal from ~~said~~ the icon for comparing the one or more interest objects received in ~~said~~ the transmission and receptions means with ~~said~~ the plurality of interest objects stored in ~~said~~ the storage means and identifying one or more events stored in ~~said~~ the storage means when the one or more interest objects received in ~~said~~ the transmission and reception means corresponds to one or more of the plurality of interest objects storage in ~~said~~ the storage means;

~~said~~ the comparison means selecting some or all or none of ~~said~~ the one or more events stored in ~~said~~ the storage means, identified by ~~said~~ the comparison means, in response to ~~said~~ the input signal from ~~said~~ the icon; and

framework means responsive to the selection of ~~said~~ the some or all or none of the ~~said~~ the one or more events by ~~said~~ the comparison means for transmitting ~~said~~ the some or all or none of ~~said~~ the one or more events from ~~said each of said one or more the~~ client applications application directly to ~~said~~ the other ~~of said one or more~~ client applications, without going through the server.

26. (Currently amended) The workstation based system of 25, wherein ~~said~~ the icon generating means generates an open state status icon, ~~said~~ the comparison means selecting all of ~~said~~ the one or more events stored in ~~said~~ the storage means, ~~said~~ the

framework means transmitting all of said the one or more events to said the other of said ~~one or more~~ client applications.

27. (Currently amended) The workstation based system of 25, wherein said the icon generating means generates a closed state status icon, said the comparison means selecting none of said the one or more events stored in said the storage means, said the framework means transmitting none of said the one or more events to said the other of said ~~one or more~~ client applications.

28. (Currently amended) The workstation based system of 25, wherein said the icon generating means generates an event filter icon, said the comparison means selecting either some or all of said the one or more events stored in said the storage means, said the framework means transmitting ~~some or all~~ the selected of said ~~one or more~~ events to said the other of said ~~one or more~~ client applications.